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Mr. Bland as he could not yet receive that poor quantity due from his five Tenants to himself (all he has remaining alive) nor one grain of corn to keep them in this time of scarcity, but he shall receive it by the next shipping with £3 due to Bland for the transport of his brother Thomas Fynch (who died soon after his arrival), in the stead of Davison's little daughter about which (*sic*) he sent a few lines by Capt. Each. The benefit of his place is so mean, having so few tenants remaining that if the Comp. repair not his losses of the 14 or 15 tenants, and certain cows promised these two years, he shall have small cause to rejoice by these employments in their service; but presumes upon his favour and furtherance. The Margaret and John accounted a lost ship, arrived about the 7th or 8th of April, also about the 10th the ship sent by Mr. Gookin, he thinks called the Providence, came to Newport News. But the Seaflower has not yet arrived 'tho long expected, whose supplies of corn & provisions make her extraordinarily desired. Has sent answer to as many of the petitioners as he was desired (wanting).

2 pp. Indorsed: "By the Abigail."—(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. II, No. 28.)

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## ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY WILLS.

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(CONTRIBUTED BY R. S. THOMAS.)

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### THE WILL OF EDWARD WILMOTH.

[Unimportant clauses omitted.]

I, Edward Wilmoth, being at this time very weak in Body but perfect of memory.

Imprimis. I do by these presents make my beloved wife Annis Wilmoth, my full & whole executrix of all my goods and chattels in Virginia or elsewhere, particularly I give unto my wife af'd four milch cows, a steer, and a Heifer that is on Lawns Creek side, and a young yearling Bull. Also I give unto my daughter Frances a yerling Heifer. Also I give unto my son John Wilmoth a cow calf, and to my son Robert Wilmoth a cow calf. Also if any of these children dye before they come to age it is

my will the said cattle shall come to the survivour. Also the plantation that we are upon I give unto my wife and all my Household Stuff & Moveables. Also I intreat John Jackson & George Coboraft to be my Overseers for the performance of my last Will and Testament, being a true Act and Deed of mine own. Witness my hand this 15th day of February, 1647.

EDWARD WILMOTH.

Teste: John Jackson, John Carter.

[I never knew of any Wilmoths in the county.]

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#### THE WILL OF ANTHONY JONES.

In the name of God, Amen, the 16th day of August, 1649. I, Anthony Jones, of Isle of Wight County, in Virginia, being in weak estate of Body but sound memory and perfect, do make my last Will and Testament as followeth:

Imprimis. I bequeath my Soul to God my Creator, and my Body to the earth from whence it came. And of my Goods which God hath given me.

Item. I bequeath to my Brother William Jones, if so be he comes to live in this country, four cows, one servant, one feather bed, one stear and corn sufficient for the year, with that Plantation where Thomas Parker lived, to be fitted up for him. But, and if he come in a single man, to live with my wife in this my new dwelling House plantation, or if in case he have a Desire to return home again with the shipping, to have Three Thousand Pounds Tobacco sent him Home the next year and Two Thousand and this year.

Item. I give to my daughter-in-law Ann Smith, the plantation I now live on with the Dividend of land there to belonging after my wife's decease.

Item. I give to my sister Catharine Jones Five Pounds Sterling, to be paid her at the return of the ships if she be living. I bequeath to my Godson Anthony Bonford, one Heifer to be paid the next May.

Item. I give and bequeath to Thomas and John Smith all my land due to take up at The Black Water or elsewhere which is Two Thousand Acres as is recorded at James Town, and that

it be divided into two parts, each to have a several Patent by himself.

Item. I make my wife Ann my whole & sole exec<sup>x</sup> of all my goods & chattels whatsoever, after my Debts are paid.

ANTHONY JONES.

Signed, sealed and carefully perused:

Robert Watson, Edw<sup>d</sup> Chetwood, Thomas Braser.

[Anthony Jones and Richard Death were burgesses in 1639 and 1642-3. *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. II, p. 99; and I *Henn.*, p. 224.]

#### THE WILL OF EDWARD CHETWINE.

[Unimportant clauses omitted.]

The Seventh Day of September, 1649. I, Edward Chetwine, of the Isle of Wight County in Virginia, being of Weak State in Body, but Sound in mind and of perfect memory, do make my last Will and Testament, as followeth:

Imp<sup>s</sup>. I give to James House and Thomas Attwell one year of their Times.

Item. I give James House all my Bedding and what else of mine is at Mr. Aldred's, only one Brass —— I give my boy, Thomas Attwell.

Item. I give to Christopher Holms all my wearing apparel.

Item. I give John Young my gun.

Item. I give Mr. Robert Watson, Henry Pitt, John Inglish, Nicholas Aldred, Mrs. Anne Jones and all her children, each of the afores<sup>d</sup> Partys one pair of Gloves and a mourning Ribbon.

Item. To my brother I give my lands, tenements and hereditaments, with Thanks that he hath supplied me notwithstanding he hither sent me for a Sacrifice.

And for the performance of this my Will and Testament, my Debts being paid, I leave Mr. Robert Watson and Henry Pitt my executors.

NOMEN CARET.

Probat  Sacrement—

Tho. Brook & Gulelmi Ruffin, 27<sup>o</sup> die Sep<sup>r</sup>, 1649.

[I never heard of any Chetwines in the county.]

## THE WILL OF JOHN VASSER.

In the name of God, Amen. This 14th of January, 1650. I, John Vasser, the unprofitable servant of God, sick in body, but strong in mind, do willingly and with a firm heart render and give unto the Hands of the Lord my Creator my Spirit I' is also my Body in hope of Resurrection, &c. I Bestow my Worldly Estate as followeth: My will and pleasure is to appoint Mr. James Pyland and Thomas Waller my overseers of this my Last Will and Testament over all my Estate. My will is to give unto my eldest son, John Vasser, Mildred, Peter and Ann Vasser, three cows called young Harris, old Star and young Star, with the female increase of the said cattle until such time they come at age, and then them and their encrease to be equally Devided amongst them. I give unto my eldest daughter, Elizabeth Vasser, two cows named Brown Bess and Napus, also a gold ring to be delivered at her day of Marriage. Lastly, I give unto my wife all the rest of my whole estate which I am possest, with all Plantation, Cattle, Hogs, moveables, Immovables, all within and abroad. Likewise all Debts and Dues by bill, bond or book, making my wife, Elizabeth, my sole executrix of all that I am possest with all. This is my last Will and Testament. Witness my hand the day and year above written.

JOHN VASSER, Sign't.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in the presence of

John Lewis, Richard Ames, Tho. Walter.

I never knew any Vassers in this county. He mentions James Pyland. James Pyland was, along with John Hammond, a Burgess from this county in 1652 to that Puritan Legislature, and the strength of their cavalier propensities stands out in bold relief on the pages of *I Hening*, pages 374-5.

Hammond wrote so strongly about the powers that be in these days that he was expelled for "libell," and James Pyland entertained, aided and abetted Thomas Woodward, who was "a violent royalist, who had been assayer to the London Mint, and was dismissed in 1649 by Bradshall, President of the Council of State, because of his opposition to Parliament, and who came to Vir-

ginia vowing that he would never see England again until his Majesty's return from exile." *Va. Car.*, page 229. He remained in Virginia. In an old Vestry Book, beginning in 1723, the name of a James Pyland, clerk to the Vestry, is on the first page.—R. S. T.

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### THE WILL OF WILLIAM JEWRY.

[Unimportant clauses omitted.]

I, William Jewry, of the Isle of Wight County, being very sick & weak, but of perfect mind and memory.

To be buried at the Discretion of my Executor in the Parish Church of the county afores'd.

After my Debts which I justly owe unto any man, being first paid and my funeral expenses satisfied.

Imprimis. I Give and Bequeath unto Elizabeth Penny, the daughter of Richard Penny, of the county aforesaid, One yearling cow calf.

Item. I give and Bequeath unto Robert Ruffin, son of William Ruffin of the Isle of Wight county af'd, one Heifer of the proper Mark of me the s'd William Jewry.

Item. I give and Bequeath unto John Arran, son of John Arran of the County af'd a calf, all and singular, the rest of my estate I give and Bequeath unto my dear and loving friend ye af'd Jno. Aarran, for, and of this my last Will and Testament do make and ordain him full and sole Executor.

In Witness whereof I, the said William Jewry, renouncing all former wills to this my last Will & Testament, have set my hand the first of January Anno Domini, 1651.

WILLIAM X JEWRY.

Mark.

Signed and delivered in the presence of us.

Richard R. P Penny, William XR Ruffin, William Westray.

Mark.

Mark.

[I never heard of the family of Jewry. It will be noticed that he directs his body to be buried in the parish church.—R. S. T.]

## THE WILL OF JOHN OLIVER.

I, John Oliver, being in good Health of Body and bound for England, do order and dispose of that estate the which it hath pleased God of his Mercy to bestow upon me (in case it should please God to take me to himself before I shall return hither to Virginia again), as followeth:

Item. I make my loving wife Ellin Oliver, my full and whole executrix of all and every part of my Estate, those Legacies hereafter, being first paid. For my Land on which I now live and Two Hundred acres of Land which I have at Blackwater, I do Give and Bequeath unto my two Daughters equally between them, &c. \* \* [Unimportant clauses omitted.]

Item. I give and Bequeath unto my son John a cow calf which is fallen this year.

Item. For all the rest of my estate I do leave it wholly to my loving wife whom before I have made my whole Executrix to be at her disposing. And for the performance of this my last Will and testament, I do appoint my loving friends James Pyland and Robert Bird, Overseers. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 19th of April, 1652.

JOHN OLIVER, (Seal.)

Testes:

James Pyland, John Burton, John X Reining.  
Mark.

## NOTES ON THE WILL OF CAPTAIN JOHN MOON.

(Printed July, 1898. By R. S. T.)

John Moon was a burgess in 1639 and in 1652. *Va. Mag. of Hist. and Biog.*, Vol. II, p. 99. *I Henn.*, 370. I have known of Moonsfield and Moon's creek all my life. Moonsfield was in my earliest knowledge a part of the estate of Willis Wilson and after his death it was bought and is now owned by Henry Diggs. It is near the mouth of Pagan creek. Moon's creek flows into Pagan creek. Red Point projects into Pagan creek about a mile and a half from Smithfield and runs back thence to the Old Brick Church, lying upon Pagan and Cypress creeks. Cypress creek flows into Pagan creek at Smithfield. The King of All Places is the first landing on Cypress creek and is so called from

its very high bluffs, and the channel of the creek which runs right up to the bluff, and its depth of water. From the mouth of Pagan creek there are extensive flats extending thirty, forty, fifty feet and more from the shore, preventing the easy loading of a vessel, but at the King of All Places the vessel can be right up at the shore and be loaded without the least trouble; hence it was The King of All Places for shipping purposes. This is perfectly apparent "to the oldest inhabitant" now, but "the oldest inhabitant" never dreamt that these names were so ancient. The King of All Places is on the land of Mr. John Grimes, and the farms now owned by John Grimes, James P. Andrews, E. M. Morrison, W. D. Folk, A. Bunkley and Henry Diggs, will easily show the possessions of John Moon and enable anyone to have quite a good idea of Bethlehem, Bethlehem creek, Bethsaida and all other places mentioned in the will of John Moon.

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### THE WILL OF JOHN STILES.

[Unimportant clauses are omitted.]

In the name of God, Amen. I, John Stiles, being sick and weak in Body, but of perfect memory, \* \*

Item. I give and bequeath unto my son, John Stiles, all my Plantation, being Two Hundred acres of land, together with the cattle hereafter specified (vizt.): one Brown Cow called by the name of paille, and one Brinded pyde cow called by the name of Fortune, and a red cow with a bob tail, a pale red cow called by the name of Rose, and one whitish brown pyed Heifer about three years old, and one blackish cow calfe, white aboute the udder and about the hinder feet [&c.], all which cattle, being seven in number, do give unto my son, John Stiles, with all their increase.

Item. I give unto John Murry, my Godson, One cow cafe, to be paid the next ensuing year.

Item. I give unto Elizabeth Johnson, my God daughter, one cow calfe, to be paid two years hence.

Item. I give unto Joane Maddin, my God daughter, one cow calfe, to be paid three years hence.



Item. I give and bequeath all the remainder of my Estate, whether Cattel, Hoggs, Household Stuff, Servants, Debts or any other thing to me belonging or any wise appertaining, unto my loving Wife, Elizabeth Stiles, and do make her my full and whole Execu<sup>r</sup> of this my last Will and Testament. I do desire my loveing friend, Humphrey Clark, to be my Overseer to see this my last Will and Testament performed & fullfilled. And in witness of the truth hereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this 26th of Octob<sup>r</sup>, 1652.

Sig.

JOHN S STILES.

Being present—

Thomas Johnson, James Pyland.

[I never heard of a Stiles in the county.]

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#### THE WILL OF JOSEPH COBBS.

This is the last Will and Testament of me, Joseph Cobbs, aged sixty years of age or thereabouts. Imprimis. I do bequeath unto my well beloved wife, Elizabeth Cobbs, one parcel of land containing Three Hundred Acres of Land or thereabout, commonly called Goose Hill Land. And further I do Bequeath unto my well beloved Wife all Moveables that are upon the s<sup>d</sup> land, as cattle (to say), seventeen head of cows and yearlings and three calves, with Hoggs, Young and old, Thirty Two or thereabouts. Provided she does marry, ye said children that are left shall have each a child's proportion, and so to be divided between them. And further I do Bequeath to my son, Benjamin Cobbs, one red cow and her calf. Item. And further I do Bequeath to my son, Pharoah Cobbs, one cow and her calf, red. Item. And further I do Bequeath unto my daughter, Elizabeth Cobbs, one black cow and one black yearling. Item. This is my last Will and Testament, now living at the mercy of God on my death bed in good sense. As Witness my hand this 1st day of March, Anno Dom. 1653-4.

JOSEPH S COBBS. [Seal.]

Signed, Sealed and Deliv<sup>d</sup> in ye presence of us,

Joseph Dunn, Jno. Childs.

[The county of Southampton was cut off from the county of Isle of Wight in 1752, and in 1833 the Cobbs of Southampton were united by marriage to the Ferns of Isle of Wight, with whom they had been friends and neighbors more than one hundred and eighty years before.]

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### THE WILL OF CHRISTOPHER REYNOLDS.

[Unimportant clauses omitted.]

The first Day of May, 1654. I, Christopher Reynolds, of the Isle of Wight County, in Virginia, planter, being healthful in Body and Sound in Mind and Memory. \* \*

Imprimis. I give and Bequeath unto my Son, *Christopher Reynolds*, all my land on the Southerly side of the freshest Swamp that *Richard Jordan* now liveth upon. And I give unto my son *John*, all my Land on the Northerly Side of the freshest Swamp, and one cow, and he to enjoy the said Land at Twenty one years of age. And unto my son *Richard*, I give all my Land I now live upon and one cow, and he to enjoy the s<sup>d</sup> land at Twenty one years of age. And my daughter *Abbasha*, I have given unto her a Portion already, which was two cows and two calves. And I give unto my daughter *Elizabeth*, one Heifer of two years old, besides the stock I gave her formerly. And unto my daughter *Jane*, I give one cow and one yearling Heifer. And I give unto *George Rivers* one yearling Heifer. And I give unto the child my wife now goeth with if it lives two cows, to enjoy them at three years old. And if any of my children dye, my will is that the other should succeed what estate they leave. And unto *Elizabeth*, my loving wife, I give all the rest of my estate, both goods and chattels, moveable and unmoveable, and debts that are due to me from any person or persons whatsoever, and my two servants, she paying all my debts truly and justly. And I do constitute and ordain *Elizabeth*, my loving wife, my whole and sole Executrix. And my will is that my wife, *Elizabeth*, shall have the ordering and bringing up *John* and *Richard*, my sons, until they be sixteen years of age, and *Elizabeth* & *Jane* until they be fifteen years of age. In wit-

ness whereof, I, the s<sup>d</sup> Christopher Reynolds, have hereunto set my Hand & Seal the Day and Year first above written.

CHRISTOPHER REYNOLDS. [Seal.]

Sealed, subscribed and delivered in the presence of

Sylvester B Bullen, Anthony A Mathews.

Mark.

Mark.

[Charles Reynolds was Burgess in 1652. In Will Book, No. 2, there is an appraisement of the estate of Richard Reynolds, on June 24, 1707, and the will of a Richard Reynolds, on July 7, 1711, in which he speaks of his loving wife, Elizabeth, and his sons, Richard, Sharp, Christopher. The same book contains the will of John Reynolds, March 11, 1668, and of Henry Reynolds, April 6, 1679.

The family of Reynolds still continues in the county.]

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#### THE WILL OF HUMPHREY CLARKE.

(Unimportant clause omitted.)

I, Humphrey Clark, of the Isle of Wight county, Cooper, being sick and weak in Body, but of perfect memory.

And for the rest of my Worldly estates after my debts paid, I do dispose of in manner and form following:

I do give unto my son John Clarke and to his heirs, all Lands whatsoever that do belong to me by any Rights, Patents or otherwise whatsoever, with the best Feather bed unto me now belonging, with what furniture belongs to it, with one half of what cattle are mine. And the other half I do give and Bequeath to my wife Jane Clark.

Item. I do give more unto my loving wife Jane Clarke, all my Household stuff with all other my furniture in the house, as Linen & Woolen, only such excepted as are in this my will specified.

Item. I do give unto my daughter in law Jane Brunt. one feather bed with what furniture belongs to it. I do acknowledge that six hundred pounds of tobacco due from John Shery doth belong unto Jane Brunt.

Item. I do give unto my two kinswomen Jane How and

Mary Clarke, each of them one cow calf to be delivered this Fall. And whereas Mary Clark is a Covenant-Servant for seven years I do remitt and give her three years of her time.

Item. I do desire and appoint that my servants shall be kept together and the one half of the benefit of their Labour shall be made use of for the maintenance of son John Clarke at school.

Item. I do give unto Thomas Holmes and John Williamis each of them one yearling Heifer.

Item. I do give unto William Godwin, John Williams, Welchman and my servant, each of them one Cow calf to be deliv'd the next Fall after this.

Item. It is my will that my wife Jane Clark shall not make away, nor give at her decease any part of this estate from my son John Clark, but at her decease all which I have left to her for her maintenance to be properly his. Likewise I do make my loving wife Jane Clark my lawful executrix and no other. And I do appoint my well beloved friend Robert Bird, Overseer of this my last Will and for the performance of it to all true intents and purposes. Thus I do Renounce and Revoke all former wills, nullifying them: and Ratifying & confirming this.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 3d March, 1655.

HUMPHREY CLARK.

Witness:

Thomas Holmes, William Bracey, Alice C Bostock.  
Mark.

[There are no Clarks now in the county that I know of, whose ancestors were of the early settlers.]

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#### THE WILL OF ROBERT DUNSTER.

I, Robert Dunster, being weak and sick of Body, but of sound and perfect memory, do bequeath my Soul to God, my Sin to the Devil, and my Body to the Earth to be buried in ye usual Burying Place. And for my worldly goods I do dispose of it by this my last Will and Testament as followeth (viz.):

I give unto my dearly beloved wife all my debts due to me either by Bill or Bond or otherwise in Virginia. Item. I give unto my beloved wife likewise all my cattle both young and old,

male and female. Item. I give unto my loving wife all my Hoggs male and female. Item. I give unto my loving wife aforesaid all my Household goods whatsoever and all my wearing apparel and all my books. Lastly I give unto my loving wife this my now dwelling plantation, both Housing and Ground. I give likewise unto my Brother, Leonard Dunster, half a crown, and to his son, William Dunster, half a crown after my Decease, and all this to be fully accomplished according to the true Intent and Meaning hereof. Witness my hand.

ROBERT DUNSTER.

Witness us—

Wm. Travers, Wm. Jux, Thomas T Wright.

Mark.

[Probated May 17, 1656. He was the minister who was a witness to the will of Robert Watson on November 6, 1651. William Jewry, in 1651, directed his body to be buried in the Parish Church, and Robert Dunster directs his body to be buried in the usual burying place. The "usual burying place" was at the Parish Church from 1623-4, if not from 1619. *I Hening*, page 123. The usual burying place for the Upper Parish was at the Old Bay Church, and for the Lower at the Old Brick Church built in 1632.]

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### A NEW CLUE TO THE LEE ANCESTRY.

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LETTER FROM LANCELOT LEE, OF COTON, ENGLAND, TO  
THOMAS LEE, OF STRATFORD, VA.

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(From copy in Collections of Virginia Historical Society.)

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[The letter printed below throws new light on the subject of the English ancestry of the Virginia Lees, as it shows who was the person from whom Hon. Thomas Lee claimed descent. This letter is evidently in reply to one from Thomas Lee, of Stratford. And it is also evident that Lancelot Lee has understood his correspondent to state that the Richard Lee, named as being ances-